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INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL
MEDICINE

10, PARKS ROAD,
OXFORD

COUNTY OF WESTLOTHIAN

REPORT

By the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1926.

To the County Council and District Committees
of the County of Westlothian

Gentlemen, -

I submit to you a report on the Health of the
County during the Year 1926.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Medical Officer of Health

County Rooms,

Edinburgh, July, 1927.

COUNTY OF WESTLOTHIAN

Report by the Medical Officer of Health
for the Year 1926

Vital Statistics

Population - Census 1921	52,329
Population - Estimated 1926	53,818
Number of Births (Males 578; Females 632)	1,207
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the Population	2,214
Number of Deaths (Males 331; Females 257)	588
Death Rate per 1,000 of the Population	10.4
Number of Deaths under one year	98
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	61
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	26
" " Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	22
" " Diphtheria	11
" " Measles	10
" " Whooping Cough	1
" " Scarlet Fever	1
" " Influenza	11
" " Encephalitis Lethargica	4

Infectious Diseases

The following table shows the number of cases of
Infectious /
during the following diseases notifiable from the 1st
January, 1925 to - Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis)
Diph - Diphtheria, and Encephalitis Lethargica.

Infectious Diseases notified in the two County Districts and the number removed to hospital during the year:-

	<u>Notified</u>	<u>Removed to Hospital</u>
Enteric Fever	-	-
Scarlet Fever	141	111
Diphtheria	79	74
Erysipelas	36	3
Puerperal Fever	1	-
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	2
Acute Primary Pneumonia	20	-
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	7	-
Infective Jaundice	-	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	49	31
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	104	72

As regards the non-notifiable diseases their prevalence in the County during the Year may be judged from the following figures for which I am indebted to the Medical Officer of the Education Authority. These figures refer to cases only from houses in which there are scholars.

Rosies	241	-	Mumps	229
Whooping Cough	89	-	Chickenpox	634

In December the Board of Health issued Regulations making the following diseases notifiable from the 1st January, 1926 :- Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis) Polio - Encephalitis, and Encephalitis Lethargica.

The/

The Regulations under which Infective Jaundice was made notifiable are to continue in force for another year.

Tuberculosis

The treatment of all cases of tuberculosis in the County (including Berghs) is now undertaken by the County Council.

The population of the area included in the Scheme is about 55,000.

During 1935 the number of patients reported to us was 225 - 76 being cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 149 cases of other forms of tuberculosis, that is of glands, spine, joints, bones, skin etc..

At East Fortune Sanatorium, which was established for the needs of the South Eastern Counties, the number of beds allocated to Westlothian is 56.

A number of patients received treatment, mainly surgical, in other institutions such as the Royal Infirmary, and the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Edinburgh.

During the year 59 persons suffering from Tuberculosis of the lungs - 30 men, 18 women and 8 children - received institutional treatment. Of these 30 men, 18 women and 7 children were admitted to East Fortune Sanatorium.

Of the cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis 41 - 8 men, 7 women and 26 children were sent to East Fortune Sanatorium, while 12 men, 13 women and 44 children received treatment/

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4.

ment in Hospital Institutions.

Hospital Treatment

In the supervision of patients in their own homes no responsibility for the medical treatment rests with the local authority. This is provided by the National Sanatorium Society. Assistance is given however, in the way of advice and instruction, chiefly upon diet and hygiene, and in the selection of suitable food and other appliances for patients who are unable to provide these themselves.

Several patients suffering from lung or other forms of tuberculosis of the chest were granted their travelling expenses to enable them to attend regularly for "light treatment" at the chest department of the Royal Infirmary, Birmingham.

General Disease

There has been no addition to, or alteration of, the Scheme for the diagnosis and treatment of these diseases which applies to the whole County, including Birmm. During the year 1916 the number of cases was as follows:—The Royal Infirmary, Birmingham, as out-patient patients was 188 - 181 men and 48 women and children. This is an increase of 37 patients as compared with the preceding year. The total attendance numbered 11,411 as compared with 10,400 last year. The increase may be attributed chiefly to the medical treatment of patients.

There were 31 patients - 11 men and 20 women and children who received in-patient treatment totalling 878 days, as compared with 29 patients and a total of 1400 days in the preceding year. The increase in the number of

of in-door patients appears to be beneficial for the fact that patients are now reporting for treatment earlier, and thus therefore have serious lesions and are mostly ill to about an out-door patients.

At the end of the year 133 patients from the County were still under treatment.

Will not be discussed

The question of appointing a Veterinary Inspector for the County and Burghs has been under consideration as was also the preparation of bylaws.

WATGATH DISTRICT

Vital Statistics

Population - Census 1901	24,837
Population - Estimated 1906	25,818
Number of Births (Males 496 : Females 481)	974
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the Population	39.2
Number of Deaths (Males 210 : Females 147)	359
Death Rate per 1,000 of the Population	18.1
Number of Deaths under one Year	71
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	79
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	18
" " Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	16
" " Whooping Cough	-
" " Diphtheria	11
" " Scarlet Fever	1
" " Measles	7
" " Influenza	3
" " Acute-Gallitis Infection	4
" " Cancer	10
" " Anaplasia	12
" " Heart Disease	13
" " Bronchitis	15
" " Pneumonia	18
" " Diarrhoea	2
" " Diseases of Early Infancy etc.,	11
" " Violence	14
" " All other Causes	104

Number of Deaths of Various Age Groups

Under 1 year - 71	22 to 41 years - 42
1 to 5 years - 14	42 to 62 years - 23
5 to 15 years - 22	62 to 72 years - 41
15 to 25 years - 13	72 and Over - 21

Infantile Diseases

Scarlet Fever - Cases notified 134 : removed to Hospital 79 : deaths 1.

There was some marked decrease in the prevalence of this disease during the past year or two. Cases occurred in all parts of the District during the year.

Diphtheria - Cases notified 22 : number removed to hospital 20 : deaths 11.

While cases occurred throughout the District, the Parish of Witham was the most seriously affected. There was a long succession of cases at East Ham and in the neighbourhood of Buntingford, the almost entirely "scarlet" or "mild" cases of a very mild type.

There was no case of Petechial Fever or Enteric Fever.

Rubeola (Measles) - Two cases were reported. Recovery took place without any loss of vision.

Measles - 22 cases - of which 2 were removed to hospital.

There were also notified 14 cases of Acute Primary Pneumonia and 7 of Influenza Pneumonia.

Primary

Primary Tuberculosis - Of the 37 cases reported 31 received institutional treatment, 20 in West Toronto Sanatorium and 4 in other institutions.

Sec-Secondary Tuberculosis - There were 28 cases notified, including two patients previously notified to us, 22 were treated in institutions - 12 in West Toronto Sanatorium and 10 in Wiltburgh Institutions.

Diphtheria - Supply of Insulin - The Public Health (Scotland) Amendment Act, 1929, gives power to a Local Authority to make such arrangements as they may think fit for providing medicine and treatment to persons who are suffering from Diphtheria and who require assistance in obtaining such medicines and treatment.

A supply of Insulin was granted to one patient during the year.

Hospitals

Glenghill Hospital - During the year there were admitted from the District 22 cases of Scarlet Fever, 27 of Diphtheria and 2 of Erysipelas. There were 6 deaths from Diphtheria, 1 death from Scarlet Fever and 1 from Erysipelas.

Brookburn Hospital - There were admitted 12 cases of Scarlet Fever and 1 case of Diphtheria. The case of Diphtheria ended fatally.

Maternity Section & Child Welfare

Infantile Mortality

Number of Deaths under one year	71
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	77

Causes of Death Classified according to Age Group.

	Under 1 year	1 to 4 years	5 to 14 years	15 to 24 years	25 to 64 years
Cholera	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	1
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-
Intermittent Fevers	-	-	-	2	5
Scarlet (not Enteric)	-	-	-	1	-
Hydrocephalus	-	-	-	-	-
Convulsions	2	5	-	2	-
Fracture	-	-	1	1	6
Epilepsy	-	1	3	-	1
Stomach	-	-	4	1	1
Other Digestive Diseases	-	-	-	1	-
Congenital Malformation	4	1	-	-	-
Congenital Heart	-	-	-	-	-
Premature Birth	11	6	1	-	-
Stroke, Paralysis, etc.,	1	3	3	-	1
Cholera	-	-	-	-	-
Injury at Birth	-	-	-	-	-
Difficulties, Strangling	-	-	-	-	-
Cyphitis	-	-	-	-	-
All Other Causes	-	1	1	1	1
Total	23	14	13	6	16

Births

Number of Births (Males 499 : Females 466)	965
Illegitimate Births (Males 301 : Females 221)	522
Number Tetified	787
Number of Births attended by Midwives	300
Number of Still Births	20

Infant Mortality

There were no deaths from Pernicious Anemia. There were 5 deaths registered as being due to causes connected with/

with Pregnancy, 1 at home and 1 in Edinburgh Institutions.

Midwives (General) Act

No. of Midwives practising in the District	20
No. of Births Registered	294
No. of Births attended by Midwives	280
No. of deaths of infants (within 14 days of birth)	21
No. of deaths of infants (within 14 days of birth) in Midwives' Practices	3
No. of Still Births	22
No. of Still Births in Midwives' Practices	2
No. of cases of Ecthinosis Scrofulacea	2
No. of cases of Ecthinosis Scrofulacea in Midwives' Practices	-
No. of cases of Puerperal Sepsis	-
No. of cases of Puerperal Sepsis in Midwives' Practices	-
No. of cases of Emergency where Medical Assistance was sent for by Midwives	24

There are no Child Welfare Consultations or Treatment Centres in the District.

Food and Milk

In connection with the emergency arising out of the coal dispute the Local Authority limited its provision of food and milk for streetwise mothers, nursing mothers and children under five years of age. All applications were dealt with by Local Committee Council of representatives of each party and accepted mothers. Assistance was granted only on a certificate by a medical practitioner that a supply was essential.

essential on grounds of health.

Deaths

There were 6 deaths of children under five years of age. 50 cases were treated in hospital.

Sanitary Work

There were no deaths.

Buildings

During the past year 5 houses were closed as unfit for human habitation.

No cases of overcrowding were dealt with.

Improvements on houses in the district continue to be carried out.

Of the 17 new houses occupied during the year, 12 were of three apartments, 1 of two apartments, 1 of four apartments, and 1 of five apartments. Two three apartment water bungalows were also occupied.

Of the 129 houses under examination, 81 are of two apartments 41 of three apartments and 7 of four apartments. This number includes those houses being erected at Blackburn. (22 of two apartments, and 20 of three apartments) and Peckhouse (22 of two apartments and 10 of three apartments).

Enforcement

No certificates were granted during the year.

Licensed Slaughterhouses

The licensed slaughterhouses in the District were found/

Good being kept in a satisfactory condition.

Richard A. Richards

There are 14 factories and 13 workshops in the District. In 14 instances minor defects were discovered and repaired. Six of these referred to work of cleanliness, 3 to want of ventilation, 1 to unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation and 1 to other nuisances.

Fire Brigade.

Inspection has been kept on the various sources of pollution affecting the stream within the District.

STATISTICS - 1974

Vital Statistics

Population - Census 1971	15,000
Population - Estimated 1974	15,500
Number of Births (Males 147 : Females 151)	215
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the Population	13.9
Number of Deaths (Males 91 : Females 87)	129
Death Rate per 1,000 of the Population	10.2
Number of deaths under one year	27
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	58
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	12
" " Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	6
" " Malaria	2
" " Whooping Cough	1
" " Scarlet Fever	-
" " Diphtheria	-
" " Enteric Fever	-
" " Typhus	6
" " Cholera	18
" " Amoebiasis	8
" " Heart Disease	11
" " Hemorrhage	11
" " Pneumonia	7
" " Diseases of Early Infancy etc.,	17
" " Violence	8
" " All other Causes	15

Number of Deaths of Various Age Groups

Under 1 year	= 57	25 to 45 years	= 43
1 to 5 years	= 4	45 to 65 years	= 26
5 to 15 years	= 10	65 to 75 years	= 44
15 to 25 years	= 17	75 and Over	= 10

Infectious Diseases

There is nothing of importance to report regarding the prevalence of infectious disease.

Scarlet Fever - Fifty Seven cases were notified and 22 were removed to hospital. In Littleborough Parish there were 15 cases, Kirkstall 14, Walsingham 3 and Wharfedale 5.

Diphtheria - Fifteen cases were notified and all were removed to hospital. There were 5 cases in Walsingham Parish, 4 in Littleborough, 3 in Wharfedale and 1 in Kirkstall.

Erysipeloid - Thirteen Cases.

There was one case of Enteric Fever.

One case of Enteric Fever recovered without loss of vision.

There were 6 cases of Acute Primary Erysipelas notified.

Two cases of Enteric Fever were reported from

from an institution.

Measles - Three deaths.

Scarlet Fever - One death.

Diphtheria - Fifteen cases were reported and of these 4 were removed to West Portland Sanatorium, 4 were treated in the Lillington Convalescent Hospital and 1 was admitted to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

Non-Diphtheritic Diphtheria - There were 26 cases notified, and of these 18 received institutional treatment, 4 in West Portland Sanatorium, and 11 in Edinburgh institutions.

Lillington Hospital

From the District there were admitted 28 cases of Scarlet Fever and 16 of Diphtheria. There were no deaths.

Sanitary Service & Child Welfare

Number of Deaths under one year	27
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	26

Causes of Death Classified according to Age Groups

Table set over.

Causes of Deaths Classified according to Age Group

	<u>Under 1</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>1 to 4</u> <u>years</u>	<u>5 to 9</u> <u>months</u>	<u>10 to 14</u> <u>months</u>	<u>15 to 19</u> <u>months</u>
Cholera	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	2
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	1	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculous Disease	-	-	-	1	-
Scarlet (not Tuberculous)	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-	2
Dysentery	-	-	-	1	1
Diarrhoea	-	-	-	1	-
Other Digestive Diseases	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital Malformation	1	1	1	-	-
Congenital Heart	-	1	-	-	-
Premature Birth	2	2	-	-	-
Asphyx, Suffocation etc.,	1	1	-	-	-
Alcoholism	-	1	-	-	-
Injury at Birth	1	-	-	-	-
Difficulties during	-	-	-	-	-
Birth	-	-	-	1	-
All Other Causes	1	-	-	-	1
Total	9	9	3	3	6

Births

Number of Births (Males 149 : Females 166)	315
Illegitimate Births (Males 7 : Females 12)	19
Number of Births notified	331
Number of Births attended by Midwives	49
Number of Still Births	2

Natural Mortality

There were no deaths from Marasmus Infantum.

There was one death from Marasmus Infantum.

And not R.I.D.

In/

In connection with the emergency arising out of the trouble in the coal industry the Local Authority decided to provide food and milk for unemployed mothers, nursing mothers and children under five years of age. Applications were dealt with by Local Committees and assistance was granted only on a medical certificate.

There were two deaths from measles and one from diphtheria among children under five years of age.

Midwives (General) Act

No. of midwives practising in the District	10
No. of births registered	313
No. of births attended by midwives	28
Total no. of deaths of infants (within 14 days after birth)	9
Total no. of deaths of infants (within 14 days of birth) in midwives' practices	-
No. of Still Births	6
No. of Still Births in midwives' practices	3
No. of cases of puerperal fever	1
No. of cases of puerperal fever in midwives' practices	-
No. of cases of Puerperal Septic	1
No. of cases of Puerperal Septic in midwives' practices	1
No. of cases of Puerperal Septic where medical assistance was sent for by midwives	1

Housing

Housing Inspectors numbered 471.

One house which was listed as uninhabitable was reconstructed/

reconstructed and made fit for habitation.

Repairs and improvements were carried out in 152 houses.

Water was introduced into 31 and w.c.s. provided for 102 houses.

One hundred "Steel" houses erected by the Local Authority were occupied, and 5 brick houses of three apartments for employees.

Licences

No certificates were granted during the year.

Slaughterhouses

There are three private slaughterhouses. These were regularly inspected and found being kept in a cleanly condition.

Factories & Workshops Act

There are 32 workshops on the register. These were regularly inspected and found being kept in a satisfactory condition. One notice was served for insufficient Sanitary Accommodation. The defect was remedied and 3 w.c.s. were provided.

